

REMARKS

1. Claim Amendments.

Claims 1 - 57 have been previously cancelled without prejudice.

Claim 58 has been amended to clarify the step in which the dispensable sophorolipid compound is obtained. No new matter has been added.

Claims 59 - 63 have not been amended in this Preliminary Amendment.

Claims 64 - 67 have been previously cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 68 and 69 have not been amended in this Preliminary Amendment.

Claims 70 – 74 have been previously cancelled without prejudice.

Claim 75 has been amended to clarify the step in which the dispensable sophorolipid compound is obtained. Claim 75 also has been amended to claim a specific embodiment of the invention in which the excipient is DMSO and the sophorolipid compound is present in the excipient in a concentration of 0.3 mg/mL. Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification as originally filed on page 6, lines 18-20. No new matter has been added.

Claims 76 - 79 have not been amended in this Preliminary Amendment.

2. 35 USC 112 Rejections.

The minor amendments to Claim 58 and 75 address the Examiner's concern under 35 USC 112. No new matter has been added.

3. 35 USC 102 Rejections.

The claims have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by an article by Bisht et al., J. Org. Chem. 64, 780-789 (1999) (the Bisht reference). Applicant continues to traverse this rejection and further submits that the amendment to Claim 75 obviates this rejection as to Claims 75-79.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the patent application is in condition for allowance and issuance. If the Examiner has any final concerns that can be addressed over the telephone, please have the examiner contact the below-signed patent lawyer of record to expedite the issuance of the patent.

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

/lpcolton/

Laurence P. Colton
Reg. No. 33,371

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP
1230 Peachtree Street, NE, Suite 3100
Atlanta GA 30309

Tel: 404.815.3681
Fax: 404.685.6981
Email: lcolton@sgrlaw.com